

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Currently amended) A method for producing Factor VII comprising (a) cultivation of a mammalian cell line comprising (i) a DNA sequence encoding a Kex2-derived endoprotease, wherein said endoprotease is at least about 90% homologous to Kex2 and exhibits variant having Kex2 enzymatic activity and (ii) a DNA sequence encoding Factor VII (FVII) in a suitable culture medium, under conditions in which both said endoprotease Kex 2 variant and said FVII are expressed; and (b) isolation of Factor VII from the medium.
- 2-3 (Cancelled)
4. (Currently amended) The method of claim 3 1 wherein the Kex2-derived endoprotease variant is C-terminally truncated Kex2 and has no transmembrane region.
5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 4, wherein the Kex2-derived endoprotease variant has an ER retention signal added to the C-terminal end.
6. Cancelled
7. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the culture medium is a serum free medium.
8. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the mammalian cell line is a CHO cell line.
9. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the mammalian cell line is a BHK cell line.
10. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the mammalian cell line is a HEK 293 cell line.